



# 34/H  
gnd  
7/26/02

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED

In re the application of

JUL 26 2002

SWAAK

Group Art Unit: 1644

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Serial Number: 08/817,704

Examiner: G. Ewoldt

Filed: August 25, 1997

Atty. Docket No. P108214-7002

For: USE OF ERYTHROPOIETIN IN THE TREATMENT OF RHEUMATOID  
ARTHRITIS

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT WITH FILING AN RCE**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Date: July 22, 2002

Sir:

Prior to initial examination of the application, please amend the above-identified  
application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claims 18 and 20 as follows:

18. (Five Times Amended) A method of treating morning stiffness, loss of grip strength, painful joints, or swollen joints in a patient suffering from morning stiffness, loss of grip strength, painful joints, or swollen joints, comprising identifying the patient suffering from morning stiffness, loss of grip strength, painful joints, or swollen joints and administering to the patient suffering from morning stiffness, loss of grip strength, painful joints, or swollen joints a morning stiffness, loss of grip strength, painful joints, or swollen joints treating effective amount of erythropoietin over a treatment period.